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Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 IOE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-12
/084 W
----------075444 051539Z /50
O 051355Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2697
INFO USMISSION USUN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 0053

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, SF, SW, SW
SUBJ: NAMIBIA NEGOTIATIONS: APPROACH TO NORDIC COUNTRIES

REF: (A) STATE 1057, (B) USUN 009, (C) USUN 010, (D) COPENHAGEN 068,
(E) STATE 877

1. WESTERN FIVE AMBASSADORS AGREED ON JANUARY 3 THAT NO APPROACH
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TO MFA ON NAMIBIAN ISSUE COULD BE MADE WITHOUT PROPER INSTRUCTIONS
FROM CAPITALS. BRITISH WERE LAST TO RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS, LATE
JANUARY 4. BECAUSE FRENCH AMBASSADOR, "DEAN OF THE FIVE", HAD
BY THEM DEPARTED STOCKHOLM ON SCHEDULED TRIP, DEMARCHE WAS
CARRIED OUT BY NEXT MOST SENIOR, WEST GERMAN AMBASSADOR HEINZ
VOIGT, WHO MET WITH MFA SECGEN LEIF LEIFLAND AT 11:00 A.M.
ON JANUARY 5. INFORMATION PASSED BY DANES (BIERRING) THAT

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STOCKHOLM DEMARCHE OCCURRED ON JANUARY 2 (PARA 3, REF D) IS INCORRECT. VOIGT'S PRESENTATIONS WAS BASED ON TALKING POINTS CONTAINED REF C.

2. ACCORDING TO VOIGT, LEIFLAND BEGAN BY SAYING THAT GOS WELCOMED THE WESTERN FIVE INITIATIVE AND HOPED IT WOULD BE SUCCESSFUL. HE RECALLED THAT THE EXCELLENT CONTACT ESTABLISHED BY PREVIOUS SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN MAINTAINED BY THE FALLDIN REGIME. LEIFLAND SAID MFA IS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT SWAPO WOULD WELCOME THE FIVE INVITATION FOR DISCUSSIONS AND THAT THE CURRENT DIFFICULTY IN AGREEING ON AN EXACT DATE AND PLACE IS MINOR AND TEMPORARY, POSSIBLY BASED ON SOME INTERNAL SWAPO JOCKYING. THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT SWAPO IS READY TO TALK.

3. AS FOR A SPECIFIC SWEDISH ROLE, LEIFLAND SAID THAT, OF COURSE, GOS COULD NOT ACT AS A MEDIATOR SINCE, IF SWAPO WERE TO RECEIVE THAT IMPRESSION, IT COULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE. (LEIFLAND ACKNOWLEDGED IMMEDIATELY THAT FIVE WERE NOT REQUESTING GOS TO UNDERTAKE SUCH A ROLE.) LEIFLAND CONTINUED THAT GOS WAS IN CONTACT WITH SWAPO REPS IN NEW YORK, LUANDA, LUSAKA AND STOCKHOLM AND HE ASSURED VOIGT THAT ALL THESE CHANNELS WOULD BE USED TO URGE SWAPO TO PARTICIPATE SERIOUSLY IN THE DISCUSSIONS ENVISAGED.

4. IN RESPONSE TO VOIGT'S QUESTION, PROMPTED BY EMBASSY, LEIFLAND SAID HE DOUBTED THE EFFICACY OF A COLLECTIVE NORDIC APPROACH TO SWAPO ON THIS OCCASION. GIVEN THE DIFFERING CONFIDENTIAL

RELATIONSHIPS THE NORDICS MAINTAIN WITH SWAPO, LEIFLAND SAID HE THOUGHT INDIVIDUAL APPROACHES MIGHT BE MORE PRODUCTIVE. ACCORDING TO VOIGT, LEIFLAND SEEMED TO IMPLY THAT SWEDISH CONTACT ANDINFLUENCE WITH SWAPO WERE MORE EXTENSIVE THAN OTHERS IN THE NORDIC GROUP AND COULD BE BETTER EXPLOITED BILATERALLY THAN OTHERWISE. (COMMENT: VOIGT AND EMBASSY AGREE THAT SWEDISH RELATIONS WITH SWAPO LEADERSHIP ARE PROBABLY CLOSER THAN THOSE MAINTAINED BY OTHER NORDIC GOVERNMENTS.) LEIFLAND CONCLUDED THAT, WHILE THE LAST WORD ON POSSIBLE NORDIC COORDINATION HAS NOT BEEN HEARD, AND THAT HE WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH SEVERAL OF HIS NORDIC COLLEAGUES, HE IS, AS OF NOW, PLANNING TO PROCEED BILATERALLY WITH SWAPO.

5. EMBASSY ASSUMES EITHER VOIGT OR FRENCH AMBASSADOR (DEPENDING ON HIS RETURN TO STOCKHOLM) WILL BE ASKED TO PRESENT MFA TEXT OF SETTLEMENT, AS MENTIONED REF E, ON BEHALF OF WESTERN FIVE HERE DURING WEEK OF JANUARY 9. AMBASSADOR PLANS TO RAISE STATUS OF SWEDISH ASSISTANCE VIS-A-VIS SWAPO INFORMALLY WITH LEIFLAND DURING SCHEDULED MEETING ON JANUARY 13.
KENNEDY-MINOTT

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